



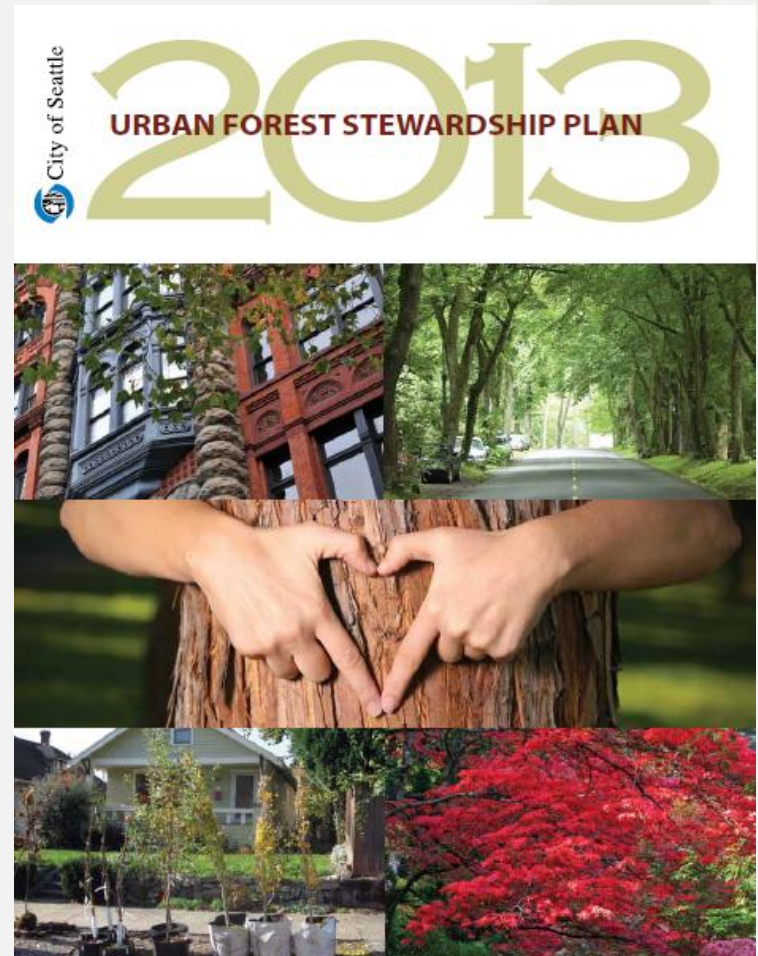
# **2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan**

**City Council Briefing**

August 12, 2013

# Purpose of the Plan

- Sets framework
  - Identify priorities
  - Develop and guide policies and programs



# Vision Statement

Seattle's urban forest is a thriving and sustainable mix of tree and understory species and ages that creates a contiguous and healthy ecosystem that is valued and cared for by the City and all of its residents as an essential environmental, economic, and shared community asset that reinforces Seattle's identity and legacy as a forested, livable city.

# Development of the Plan

- Urban Forest IDT (DPD, FAS, OSE, Parks, SCL, SDOT, Seattle Center, SPU, Zoo)
- Public comment
  - Open House (8/1/12)
  - Community meetings
  - Comment input through 10/1/12
- Urban Forestry Commission
- Academics (UW, BGI, Antioch)
- Working group (CM Conlin's Office, Central Staff, UFC, OSE, Parks, SDOT, DPD, SPU)





# Functional Benefits

Annual benefits of Seattle's urban forest:

- \$10.9M carbon storage
- \$5.9M energy savings
- \$5.6M pollution-removal
- \$760K carbon sequestration
- Other benefits: storm water reduction, habitat, steep slope stability, economic vitality, public health, livability, food production...



# Goals

1. Create an ethic of stewardship
2. Replace and enhance functional benefits
3. Expand canopy cover to 30% by 2037
4. Increase health and longevity, remove invasives, improve age and species diversity



# Guiding Principles

- Trees are part of natural ecological systems
- High-quality habitat areas
- Human stewardship
- Ecology of Place
- Coordinate efforts
- Support actions and behaviors
- Regeneration is an ongoing process





# Integrated Approach

- Community
- Ecological
- Resource Management





# Priorities

- Increase awareness
- Preserve existing trees
  - Evergreen
  - Mid and large
  - Groves
  - Unique wildlife habitat
- Maintain existing trees
- Restore
- Plant new trees

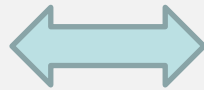


# Comprehensive Strategy

## Urban Forest Stewardship

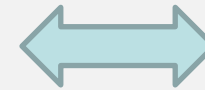
### Regulations & Incentives

- Street trees
- Trees on private property
- Critical Areas Ordinance



### Outreach & Education

- reLeaf
- GSP
- SDOT



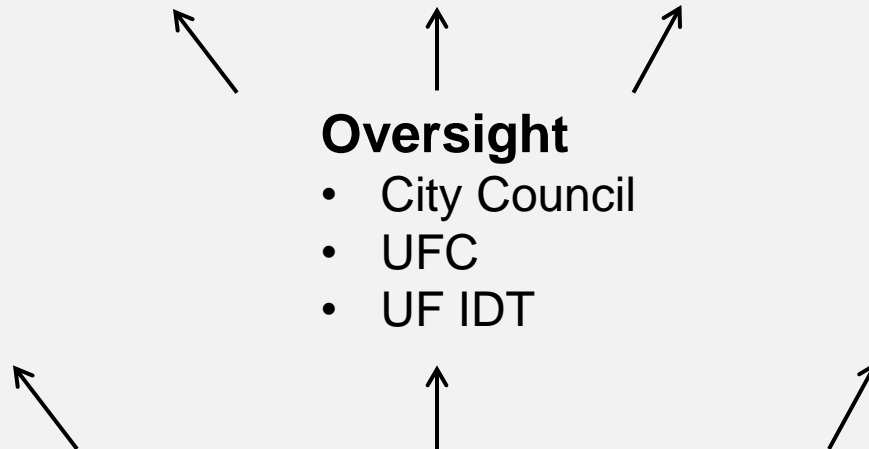
### Public Trees

- Management
- 2 for 1 policy
- Maintenance
- Street trees
- Utility/tree issues

### Oversight

- City Council
- UFC
- UF IDT

### Indicators/Monitoring/Data Collection/Research



# Action Agenda

- Steps to take to implement UFSP
- Over 100 action items (Short-, mid-, and long-term)
- Over 70 actions to be completed by 2018



# Questions?

